

**Introduced by Senator Florez**

September 1, 2009

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Senate Resolution No. 30—Relative to horses.

1 WHEREAS, California voters enacted a ban on the slaughter  
2 of horses for human consumption and the sale of horsemeat for  
3 human consumption in 1998; and

4 WHEREAS, California horses continue to be transported and  
5 sold out of state, making protection of our horses difficult and  
6 dependent on the passage of a federal ban on the movement of  
7 horses for purposes of slaughter for human consumption; and

8 WHEREAS, The slaughter of American horses has continued  
9 unabated despite the closing in 2007 of the three slaughter houses  
10 then still operating within the United States; and

11 WHEREAS, Federal legislation has been introduced, the  
12 Conyers-Burton Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act of 2009, that  
13 would prohibit the possession, shipping, transporting, purchasing,  
14 selling, delivering, or receiving of horses and other equines in  
15 interstate or foreign commerce for slaughter for human  
16 consumption; and

17 WHEREAS, Horse slaughter is not humane euthanasia and is  
18 in fact animal torture and cruelty; and

19 WHEREAS, Horse slaughter has been detrimental to the  
20 communities where slaughtering facilities have been located, with  
21 significant negative impacts to these communities ranging from  
22 nuisance odors to chronic sewer and environmental violations; and

23 WHEREAS, Horse slaughter has been found to increase and  
24 abet horse theft; and

25 WHEREAS, Horse slaughter is not a means of controlling  
26 numbers of unwanted, abandoned, or neglected horses, but, rather,

1 is a for-profit operation driven by a demand for horsemeat in some  
2 foreign countries; and

3 WHEREAS, American horses are not raised, fed, or medicated  
4 within the FDA guidelines established for food animals, making  
5 them potentially unfit and unsafe for human consumption; and

6 WHEREAS, In America, horses are an icon of our history,  
7 traditions, and culture, revered for their contributions to the  
8 building of this country, their companionship, and their special  
9 bond with people; now, therefore, be it

10 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California*, That the Senate  
11 hereby urges Congress to support federal legislation to protect  
12 American horses from slaughter for human consumption; and be  
13 it further

14 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate is hereby authorized  
15 and directed to transmit copies of this resolution to the President  
16 and Vice President of the United States, the Majority Leader of  
17 the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to  
18 each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress  
19 of the United States.